

DRAFT #1  
22 January 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of Security Members  
FROM: Robert W. Gambino  
Director of Security  
SUBJECT: APEX

STATINTL 1. At the office staff meeting on Friday, 11 January,  
[ ] the principal architect of the APEX system  
gave us his views on the concept behind APEX and its status.

2. The President has reviewed the pros and cons of  
establishing a single special access control system and has  
decided on adopting APEX as the single system of compartmentation  
in the Intelligence Community. All current special access  
programs of compartmentation are terminated and will remain  
in existence only until such time as APEX is implemented. The  
implementation of APEX is deliberately phased to allow senior  
review of major milestones.

3. The President has named the DCI as Executive Agent  
for the National Security Council in establishing and operating  
APEX.

4. The DCI established two implementing mechanisms:
- a. An APEX Steering Group, with representatives  
from participating departments and agencies.

1. A position of Special Assistant to the DCI  
for Compartmentation.

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5. The CIA Member of the APEX Steering Group  
is [REDACTED]  
Room 3E63 Headquarters. [REDACTED] is Chief, Collection  
Requirements and Evaluation Staff, NFAC. His alternate is

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6. [REDACTED] will be the CIA point of contact as efforts  
progress to implement the APEX system.

7. I have direct and personal representation on the  
Steering Group as the Chairman, DCI SECURITY COMMITTEE and  
believe I will be appointed as the DCI's APEX Security  
Officer.

STATINTL

8. [REDACTED] C/CSG, is the Security Advisor  
to the Steering Group. [REDACTED] OGC, is the  
Legal Advisor.

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9. The Director has appointed [REDACTED]  
as his Special Assistant for Compartmentation and as the  
Chairman of the APEX Steering Group. [REDACTED] has a  
small APEX Control Staff composed of 4 professional level  
officers. One of these is [REDACTED] who  
serves as [REDACTED] deputy. They can be reached on  
[REDACTED] and currently have as  
mailing address 7E12.

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10. The establishment of APEX is a major undertaking that will require considerable effort on our part to make sure it works. But I do not believe it is as difficult a task as some may predict. I certainly want all of us to do everything we can to ensure its success.

11. Within the Office of Security I look to:

a. the DD/P&M to:

• coordinate through PPG all

APEX related papers sent to us by [ ] or STATINTL

STATINTL

[ ] I want prompt and thorough staffing. We must recognize that such papers will have a short deadline in most cases and I suggest that each Deputy Director set up a member as point of contact for PPG on APEX matters.

• encourage and direct the Special Security Center to play an active role in supporting the implementation of APEX particularly in participating non-NFIB departments.

• direct the Compartmented Information Branch in efforts toward converting [ ] and in 25X1A registering APEX special access approvals. There will be no immediate changes in the system of registering access approvals and I encourage development of new ideas and concepts by CIB personnel to make [ ] a STATINTL most advanced, reasonable and feasible system.

b. the DD/PTOS for considerable support in many areas:

- Area Security Officers need to be kept informed as to their role in the APEX implementation and utilization effort. Try to provide them with advance information and planning. Serve as their conduit for resolution of their questions as to policy interpretation and procedural implementations.

- Industrial Security Branch can play a considerable role in furthering the DCI's expectation for a rapid and secure transfer to the APEX system by our industrial contractors.

- There are major contributory roles to be played by others in PTOS and I ask that you direct your resources as appropriate to realize a smooth implementation.

c. the DD/PSI to:

- ensure that his elements contribute as they can to the APEX implementation. I have assured that DCID 1/14 requirements continue to apply to those nominated for access to the APEX system, including the requirements for 5 year updates. Accordingly the

investigative standards for APEX remain as now set forth. We may see a slight decrease in numbers of requests for 1/14 level investigations since under APEX there will be a considerable volume of what is now SCI material available to contractors at standard levels of classification.

12. I also know, as the Director observed, that the Community has not viewed the APEX proposal uniformly. But I want to assure you that I will participate directly and through adequately directed representation in the decision processes associated with APEX with a continuing goal of sound security. I expect your fullest cooperation.

Robert W. Gambino

cc: SA/DCI/C

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

APEX

FROM:

Chief, CSG

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

22 January 1980

STATINTL

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

DD/P&amp;M

2.

3.

C/CSG

4.

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Skip -

Attached is a rough DRAFT memo/notice from RWG to OS on APEX. It is a shot on getting two birds -

- 1 - Informative
- 2 - Identifying responsible elements.